1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	BERNARD J. KORNBERG (State Bar No. 2520 bjk@severson.com DANIEL E. YOSEF (State Bar No. 322717) dey@severson.com SEVERSON & WERSON A Professional Corporation One Embarcadero Center, Suite 2600 San Francisco, California 94111 Telephone: (415) 398-3344 Facsimile: (415) 956-0439 Attorneys for Defendants RENEW FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC; and RENEW FINANCIAL HOLDINGS, INC.	006)
9	UNITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT
10	NORTHERN DISTRI	CT OF CALIFORNIA
11	DEBORAH PEREZ,	Case No. 4:20-cv-04132-SBA
12	Plaintiff,	Hon. Saundra Brown Armstrong
13	vs.	ANSWER TO FIRST AMENDED
14	PACE FUNDING GROUP, LLC; RENEW FINANCIAL, LLC; RENEW FINANCIAL	COMPLAINT
15	GROUP, LLC; and RENEW FINANCIAL HOLDINGS, INC.,	
16	Defendants.	
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ANSWER TO FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

Case No. 4:20-cv-04132-SBA

12634.0056/15611382.1

12634.0056/15611382.1

- 13. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 14. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 15. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 16. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
 - 17. Deny.
 - 18. Deny.
- 19. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 20. Admit the Agreement to Pay Assessment creates a lien that attaches to the homeowner's property. Except as expressly admitted, Renew denies each and every remaining allegation of this paragraph.
 - 21. Deny.
- 22. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 23. Renew denies it engaged in fraudulent and abusive conduct. As to the remaining allegations do not constitute factual allegations alleged against Renew and, as a result, Renew is not required to answer the allegations set forth. To the extent a response is required Renew denies the allegations.
- 24. The allegations do not constitute factual allegations alleged against Renew and, as a result, Renew is not required to answer the allegations set forth. To the extent a response is required Renew denies the allegations.
- 25. The allegations do not constitute factual allegations alleged against Renew and, as a result, Renew is not required to answer the allegations set forth. To the extent a response is required Renew denies the allegations.

1	26.	Admit as to Renew. As to the remaining defendants, Renew has insufficient	
2	information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.		
3	27.	Deny.	
4		JURISDICTION AND VENUE	
5	28.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
6	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.	
7	29.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
8	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.	
9	30.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
10	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.	
11	31.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
12	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.	
13	32.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
14	admit or deny.	Renew does not challenge venue.	
15		PARTIES & DEFINITIONS	
16	33.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
17	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.	
18	34.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
19	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.	
20	35.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
21	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.	
22	36.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
23	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.	
24	37.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either	
25	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.	
26	38.	Admit.	
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- 39. Deny. Renew Financial Group, LLC is a limited liability company doing business in Oakland, California. The remaining allegations call for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 40. The allegations call for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 41. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 42. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 43. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 44. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 45. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation
- 46. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation
- 47. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation
- 48. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 49. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 50. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 51. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.

1	80.	This allegation is too broadly stated and ambiguous to be subject to admission. To			
2	an extent an answer is required, Renew denies the allegation.				
3	81. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on				
4	that basis denies the allegation.				
5	82.	Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on			
6	that basis denies the allegation.				
7	83.	Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on			
8	that basis deni	es the allegation.			
9	84.	Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on			
10	that basis deni	es the allegation.			
11	85.	Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on			
12	that basis denies the allegation.				
13	86.	Deny			
14	87.	Deny			
15	88.	Deny			
16	89.	The allegations are too broadly stated and ambiguous to be subject to admission.			
17	To the extent a	response is required, Renew denies the allegation.			
18	90.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either			
19	admit or deny	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.			
20		<u>FIRST I</u>			
21		(Violations of the Truth in Lending Act 15 U.S.C. § 1601 et seq.)			
22	91.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either			
23	admit or deny	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.			
24	92.	No response is required to this paragraph.			
25	93.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either			
26	admit or deny	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.			
27	94.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either			
$_{28}$	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.			

12634.0056/15611382.1

Case No. 4:20-cv-04132-SBA

- 95. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 96. The allegations are too broadly stated and ambiguous to be subject to admission. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 97. This allegation is too broadly stated and ambiguous to be subject to admission. To an extent an answer is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 98. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on that basis denies the allegation.
- 99. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 100. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 101. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 102. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 103. The allegations are too broadly stated and ambiguous to be subject to admission.To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 104. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 105. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 106. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 107. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
- 108. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.

1	109. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
2	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
3	110. Deny.
4	111. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
5	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
6	112. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
7	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
8	113. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
9	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
10	114. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and o
11	that basis denies the allegation.
12	115. Deny.
13	116. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
14	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
15	117. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
16	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
17	118. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
18	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
19	SECOND II
20	(Violations of the Home Ownership Equity Protection Act 15 U.S.C. § 1639)
21	119. No response is required to this paragraph.
22	120. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
23	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
24	121. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
25	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
26	122. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to eithe
27	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
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12634.0056/15611382.1

1	136. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
2	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
3	137. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
4	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
5	138. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
6	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
7	Fourth IV
8	(Violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750 et seq)
9	139. No response is required to this paragraph.
10	140. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
11	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
12	141. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
13	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
14	142. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
15	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
16	143. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
17	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
18	144. This allegation is too broadly stated and ambiguous to be subject to admission. To
19	an extent an answer is required, Renew denies the allegation.
20	145. This allegation is too broadly stated and ambiguous to be subject to admission. To
21	an extent an answer is required, Renew denies the allegation.
22	146. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on
23	that basis denies the allegation.
24	147. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
25	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
26	148. Deny.
27	149. Deny.
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1	150. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
2	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.		
3	151. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
4	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.		
5	152. Deny.		
6	153. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
7	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation		
8	154. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
9	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.		
10	155. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
11	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.		
12	156. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on		
13	that basis denies the allegation.		
14	157. Deny.		
15	158. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
16	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.		
17	<u>Fifth V</u>		
18	(Violations of California's Unfair Competition Law, Business and Professions Code § 17200		
19	et seq.)		
20	159. No response is required to this paragraph.		
21	160. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
22	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.		
23	161. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
24	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.		
25	162. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
26	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.		
27	163. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either		
28	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.		

1	164.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
2	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
3	165.	Deny.
4	166.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
5	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
6	167.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
7	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
8	168.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
9	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
10	169.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
11	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
12	170.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
13	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
14	171.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
15	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
16	172.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
17	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
18	173.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
19	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
20	174.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
21	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
22	175.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
23	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
24		Sixth VI
25		(Fraud)
26	176.	No response is required to this paragraph.
27	177.	This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
28	admit or deny.	To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.

1	178. Deny.
2	179. Deny.
3	180. Renew has insufficient information to either admit or deny this allegation and on
4	that basis denies the allegation.
5	181. Deny.
6	SEVENTH VII
7	(Financial Abuse of a Dependent Adult Cal. Welfare & Institutions Code § 15610 et seq.)
8	182. No response is required to this paragraph.
9	183. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
10	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
11	184. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
12	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
13	185. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
14	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
15	186. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
16	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
17	187. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
18	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
19	188. This allegation calls for a legal conclusion to which Renew has no duty to either
20	admit or deny. To the extent a response is required, Renew denies the allegation.
21	189. Deny.
22	190. Deny.
23	PRAYER FOR RELIEF
24	In response to the relief requested in the Prayer for Relief, Renew denies that Plaintiff is
25	entitled to the requested relief for the reasons set forth in this answer, and denies that Plaintiff is
26	entitled to any relief whatsoever. As separate and distinct affirmative defenses to the Complaint
27	and to each allegation contained therein, Renew hereby alleges the following:
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1	AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES				
2	FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
3	(Failure to State a Claim)				
4	The complaint, and each and every cause of action therein, fails to state facts sufficient to				
5	constitute a cause of action against Renew.				
6	SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
7	(Set Off)				
8	Perez's claims for relief are barred or limited by the doctrine of setoff.				
9	THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
10	(Offset)				
11	Perez's claims for relief are barred or limited by the doctrine of offset.				
12	FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
13	(Estoppel)				
14	Perez, by virtue of her own acts and/or the acts or omissions of others chargeable to him, is				
15	estopped from obtaining relief sought from Renew.				
16	FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
17	(Unclean Hands)				
18	The Complaint should be barred due to the unclean hands of Perez, by virtue of her own				
19	acts and/or the acts or omissions of others chargeable to her.				
20	SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
21	(Statute of Limitations and Repose)				
22	The claims made in the complaint are barred as outside of the statute of limitations and/or				
23	the statute of repose for each claim.				
24	SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
25	(Comparative Fault)				
26	Renew alleges that the proximate cause or causes of Perez's alleged injuries and damages,				
27	if any, were wholly or in part the fault of Perez and/or of others for whose conduct Renew are not				
28	responsible, and said fault comparatively reduces the percentage of fault, if any, of Renew.				
	12634.0056/15611382.1 16 Case No. 4:20-cv-04132-SBA				

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE 1 2 (No Agency) 3 To the extent that the loss, injuries and damage alleged by Perez, if any there were, were caused by the alleged agents of Renew, a relationship which Renew denies, said agents, if any, 4 5 exceeded the scope of their alleged agency and acted without the knowledge, consent or authorization of Renew, and Renew is therefore not liable for said agents' actions and/or 6 omissions. 7 8 NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE 9 (Compliance with Governing Law) Renew's compliance with the statutes, rules, regulations, and contractual obligations which 10 11 govern the subject matter of this lawsuit precludes any alleged liability to Perez. 12 TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE 13 (Bona Fide Error) Perez's complaint and each claim for relief therein are precluded because Perez's damages, 14 15 if any exist, resulted from a bona fide error notwithstanding maintenance of procedures reasonably adapted to avoid such errors. 16 17 ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE 18 (Damages Speculative) The damages sought by Perez are speculative, and recovery by Perez is therefore barred in 19 20 whole or in part. 21 TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (Laches) 22 23 Perez is barred from recovery by the doctrine of laches because she knew of the purported 24 acts or omissions. Perez was fully aware of her rights against Renew (if any) but nevertheless inexcusably and unreasonably delayed in asserting those rights, to the prejudice of Renew. 25 26 27 28 Case No. 4:20-cv-04132-SBA 12634.0056/15611382.1

ANSWER TO FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

1	THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE			
2	(Superseding and Intervening Causes)			
3	Perez may not recover against Renew because Perez's purported damages were the			
4	proximate result of superseding and intervening causes unrelated to any act by Renew.			
5	FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE			
6	(Action/Negligence of Third Parties)			
7	Renew is not responsible for the damages, if any, suffered by Perez, and some other party,			
8	entity, or individual(s) is/are liable and responsible for any and all damages, if any, suffered by			
9	Perez.			
10	FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE			
11	(No Tender)			
12	Perez has not tendered any amounts received by virtue of the subject financing and			
13	assessment contract, notwithstanding Renew's equitable right to such tender, in order to seek			
14	equitable relief.			
15	SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE			
16	(Reservation of Rights)			
17	Renew currently has insufficient knowledge or information on which to form a belief as to			
18	whether it may have additional, as yet unstated, defenses available. Renew expressly reserves			
19	their right to assert additional affirmative defenses in the event that discovery indicates other			
20	affirmative defenses would be appropriate.			
21	RENEW'S PRAYER FOR RELIEF			
22	WHEREFORE, Renew prays as follows:			
23	1. That Perez takes nothing by reason of the complaint;			
24	2. For judgment in Renew's favor and dismissal of the action with prejudice;			
25	3. For attorneys' fees against Perez;			
26	4. For costs of suit; and			
27	For such other relief that the Court deems just and proper.			
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	12634.0056/15611382.1 18 Case No. 4:20-cv-04132-SBA			
	ANSWER TO FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT			

1	DATED: December 23, 2020		SEVERSON & WERSO A Professional Corpora	
2		By:	_	
3		Бу.	DANIEL E	l E. Yosef J. YOSEF
4			Attorneys for Defendar	nts
5			Attorneys for Defendar RENEW FINANCIAL RENEW FINANCIAL	GROUP, LLC and HOLDINGS, INC.
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	12634.0056/15611382.1		19	Case No. 4:20-cv-04132-SBA